

THE

MONTHLY



GULL

LIBRARY BULLETIN

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NUMBER 4

Report of the President for the Year 1930

This meeting (January, 1931) marks another milestone in the history of the Audubon Association of the Pacific. Our only regret at the close of another year is that all our hopes and aspirations in behalf of the organization have not been realized. It is true, however, that we have made gains for which we may be truly thankful.

Perhaps our greatest good has come from an increased and re-vitalized membership. The present enrollment of 145 is the largest in our history. The affiliation of a fine group of younger members is an especially hopeful sign. The recently created Student Membership should go far toward expanding our usefulness and in turn strengthening our Association.

Our companionable "Gull" has become ever more entertaining and instructive. It has grown strong enough to soar out to foreign shores, viz., The Netherlands, Germany and Brazil, not to mention six States in the Union besides California. It regularly reaches twenty-three different post-offices here in our own State. Its food has been so good that it has been shared by other hungry bird publications. Surely, Laura Stephens, its capable God-mother, deserves a vote of thanks and commendation. During the coming year send her choice morsels of bird news that our "Gull" may become even more instructive and entertaining.

Our monthly field trips have been most ably arranged and led by "Charlie" Bryant. Let's see to it that his is not a thankless task. May this feature of our activity continue, under Charlie's able direction, to provide pleasure and profit in increasing measure to our members and guests.

The Research Projects conceived during the past year by Herman de Fremery and launched under his guiding hand, by various members of the Association, promise to make a real contribution to bird knowledge.

During the past twelve months our organization has received a goodly amount of publicity in teachers bulletins, one magazine, one book and in the daily press.

Because of heightened interest, meetings were held throughout the summer, the total attendance at the twelve meetings being 509 or an average of forty-two.

Our financial standing, as indicated in the Treasurer's Report, is at its best.

In conclusion may I say that these accomplishments are due to the enthusiastic cooperation of our entire membership for which due thanks are hereby expressed.

Respectfully submitted,

Brighton C. Cain, President.

Speedometer tests of a quail's flight indicate that fifty-eight miles an hour is a top speed for these birds, and forty miles is the average "cruising" speed. Science News Letter, March 14, 1931.

Report of Treasurer

Commercial Account: Balance on hand January 2, 1930.....\$ 21.16
Receipts:

Dues collected for the year of 1930.....	\$311.50	
Dues collected for the year of 1931.....	40.50	
Dues collected for the year of 1932.....	3.00	
Subscriptions to "The Gull" for 1930.....	6.75	
Subscriptions to "The Gull" for 1931.....	4.50	
Received from sale of back numbers of "The Gull"	21.75	
Quail stamps10	
Donations to "The Gull".....	49.15	
Reprints	3.00	
Sale of books: "Birds of Golden Gate Park".....	37.50	477.75
Total.....		\$498.91

Expenditures:

Publishing "The Gull"	\$308.00
Reprints	3.00
Envelopes and stamps	41.98
Minute book	1.88
Printing Research Problems.....	8.95
Refund to C. B. Lastreto.....	2.00
Long distance telephone fees.....	.75
Dues in National Assn. of Audubon Societies.....	5.00
Janitor's Christmas gift and tip.....	15.50
Books: "Birds of Golden Gate Park".....	37.50
Total.....	\$424.56

Balance in commercial account January 2, 1931..... 74.35 \$498.91

Savings Account:

Balance January 2, 1930.....	\$461.25	
Interest for 1930.....	18.62	\$479.87

Balance commercial account January 2, 1931.....\$ 74.35

Cash on hand January 2, 1931..... 9.50

Savings account

479.87	\$563.72
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Memberships for 1930—Honorary 9, Life 14, Active 122.

Laura A. Stephens, Treasurer.



A Friendly Pair of House Wrens

On a train one day Mrs. H. B. Riggs, of Santa Cruz County, California, told me of a pair of House Wrens that had been coming into her house in the spring of three successive years and of how they had insisted upon making themselves members of the family group. The means of entrance and egress was an adobe chimney, often this being used when there was still a little fire in the center of the large fireplace, the heat and smoke from which did not seem to daunt the birds to any serious extent.

The house was constantly occupied by the family, but the Wrens made themselves entirely at home, roosting at night on the foot of Mrs. Riggs' bed. They were persistent nest builders, building all through the season, as their nests made such a litter that they were always destroyed as soon as discovered. Various nesting sites were: behind pillows or sofa cushions, in arm chairs, on bookshelves, in fact in any sort of place that was more or less of a cavity—and this habit was kept up for three years! It is very probable that the birds became somewhat tired of the want of sympathy with their building activities and, as the season drew toward its close, raised a brood outside the house, only to return and repeat their constructive tactics the following year again on the inside, but here ends my story for I have had no word since. Joseph Mailliard, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California.

March Field Trip was taken on Sunday, the 16th, to Point Bonita by way of Rodeo Lagoon with forty members and guests. The sky was overcast in the morning but the sun soon came out and the rest of the day was ideal.

The associations along the route consist of the bay-shore lined with live oaks, open grass-covered hills, meadows, a marsh, a small stream heavily bordered with willows, a lagoon of brakish water, separated from an ocean beach by a wide sand-bar, and steep rocky cliffs along the ocean.

Two recent arrivals greeted us within the city limits of Sausalito, a Lutescent Warbler and a Rufous Hummingbird. The big thrill of the day was furnished by two Poor-wills, flushed from a rocky hillside just beyond the west portal of the tunnel. A Long-eared Owl in the willow thicket at the head of the lagoon furnished excitement to the Junior members when they first discovered him. A pair of Ravens appeared on schedule as usual and were noted several times later on the trip. Wilson Snipe were again present in the marsh, which apparently is a regular wintering place for a small number. Cormorants were neither so abundant nor so active as usual in the vicinity of the lighthouse.

A total of seventy-five species were noted as follows:

Pacific Loon	Killdeer	Robin
Red-throated Loon	Wilson Snipe	Hermit Thrush
Holboell Grebe	Glaucous-winged Gull	Western Bluebird
Eared Grebe	Western Gull	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Western Grebe	California Gull	Pipit
Pie-billed Grebe	Short-billed Gull	Lutescent Warbler
Brown Pelican	Long-eared Owl	Audubon Warbler
Farallon Cormorant	Poor-will	Yellow-throat
Brandt Cormorant	Anna Hummingbird	Meadowlark
Baird Cormorant	Rufous Hummingbird	Red-winged Blackbird
Mallard	Allen Hummingbird	Brewer Blackbird
Canvas-back Duck	Red-shafted Flicker	House Sparrow
Lesser Scaup Duck	Downy Woodpecker	Purple Finch
White-winged Scoter	Say Phoebe	Linnet
Surf Scoter	Black Phoebe	Pine Siskin
Ruddy Duck	Horned Lark	Willow Goldfinch
Turkey Vulture	California Jay	Green-backed Goldfinch
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Raven	Spotted Towhee
Cooper Hawk	Crow	Brown Towhee
Red-tailed Hawk	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	Savannah Sparrow
Marsh Hawk	Bush-tit	Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Duck Hawk	Wren-tit	Junco
Sparrow Hawk	Winter Wren	Golden-crowned Sparrow
California Quail	Bewick Wren	Nuttall Sparrow
Coot	Marsh Wren	Song Sparrow

~ ~ ~ Chas. A. Bryant, historian.

A May Field Trip. An extra May Field Trip will be taken on Sunday, the 10th, to St. Mary's, Contra Costa County. San Francisco members will take 8:00 a. m. Key Route Ferry, and Sacramento Northern Railway train at the mole. East Bay members may take train either at 40th and Shafter Avenues, at 8:30 a. m. or at College and Shafter Avenues, at 8:35 a. m. Purchase round trip tickets to St. Mary's; from San Francisco, 75c; from Oakland, 50c. Bring luncheon and filled canteens. C. A. Bryant, leader.

(Note date as this announcement will not appear in the May issue of the "Gull.")

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Early Nesting Records: Gordon Bolander reported nesting of Bush-tits on January 27th, and House Wrens on February 6th, both in Oakland.

Eddie McClintock reported nesting of Anna Hummingbird on January 15th, near Mills College.

Mr. Arthur Myer found Mocking Birds nesting in Richmond, California, but unfortunately the nest was destroyed on March 8th, by English Sparrows.

Audubon Notes

April Meetings: Four illustrated educational lectures will be given in April on Thursday evenings, in the P. G. & E. Building, 245 Market Street, San Francisco, at 8 p. m. as follows:

April 2nd, "Upland Game-Birds," by Mr. D. D. McLean, Field Naturalist, Fish and Game Commission.

April 9th, "Hawks and Owls," by Mr. Leo K. Wilson, Acting Director, Bureau of Education and Research, Fish and Game Commission.

April 16th, "Our Common Song Birds," by Miss Margaret W. Wythe, Assistant Curator of Birds, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of the University of California.

April 30th, "Shore Birds," by Mrs. G. Earle Kelly, University of California, Extension Division.



April Field Trip will be taken Sunday, the 12th, to Lake Merced. East Bay members should reach San Francisco about 8:30 a. m. Take Municipal car marked K, transfer to M car at St. Francis Loop beyond Twin Peaks Tunnel, get off at Junipero Serra Boulevard, where party will form at 9:30. Bring luncheon and filled canteens. Time from Ferry to meeting place about forty minutes. C. A. Bryant, leader.



May Field Trip: The regular May Field Trip will be taken Sunday, the 17th, to McCoy's Ranch, near Livermore. We have to depend upon generous members who have automobiles to make this trip possible. Will all who can help please send their names and number of persons they can accommodate to C. A. Bryant, 150 Franklin Street, San Francisco, not later than April 25th.

Members without automobiles, who wish to make the trip, please send in their names so that transportation can be arranged.



March Meeting: The 170th regular meeting was held March 12th, in room 19, Ferry Building, with fifty members and guests present. President Brighton C. Cain presiding.

The following were elected to membership:

Commander and Mrs. Henry E. Parmenter and Frank A. Roberts all of San Francisco.

Field observations were reported as follows:

Mrs. Compton: February 1st, Green Valley near Mt. Diablo, Phainopepla; February 22nd, Dos Palos, 125 Sandhill Cranes, 1 pair Cinnamon Teal.

Mrs. Otis H. Smith: March 10th, Black Canyon, Marin County, male Yellow Warbler.

Mrs. Bracelin: February 19th, Searsville Cut-off, 44 Whistling Swans.

Chas. Bryant: March 1st, Tomales Point, Marbled Murrelets, Harlequin Ducks, 20,000 Black Sea Brant; March 8th, St. Mary's, 10 Red-tailed Hawks in air at one time; Lutescent Warblers abundant.

Cranson Hopkins gave a very interesting account of the work he has recently done in connection with the Barn Owl research problem.

Miss Cornelia Pringle is the new Chairman of the Research Committee. Please send any information pertaining to the various problems to Miss Pringle, 1816 Vallejo Street, San Francisco.

The speaker of the evening, Mr. Chase Littlejohn of Redwood City, gave a most interesting and instructive talk on the "Birds of the Far North."

Audubon Association of the Pacific For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....	Brighton C. Cain.....	221 Thayer Bldg., Oakland
Corresponding Secretary.....	C. B. Lastreto.....	260 California St., San Francisco
Treasurer.....	Mrs. A. B. Stephens.....	1695 Filbert St., San Francisco

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 P. M., Room 19, Ferry Building.

Address Bulletin correspondence to Mrs. A. B. Stephens, Editor, 1695 Filbert St., San Francisco.

Subscription to monthly Bulletin, \$1.00 per year. Single copies, 15c.

Membership dues, payable January 1st, \$3.00 per year.

Student memberships, \$1.50 per year.

Life memberships, \$50.00

Members are responsible for dues until written notice of resignation is received by Treasurer.